

CLAIMS

WE CLAIM:

1. A modular tray comprising:
a first end, an opposed second end, a first side, an opposed second side, each side
5 having an upper surface and a lower surface;
a first interlocking component associated with the upper surface of each side and
a second interlocking component associated with the lower surface of each side, the first
interlocking components being positioned such that the first interlocking component of
a first tray mates with the second interlocking component of an adjacent second tray
10 placed upon the first tray only when the first ends of the two trays are aligned with one
above the other.
2. The tray of Claim 1 wherein the first interlocking component is at least one post
projecting outwardly or one indentation projecting inwardly from each of the sides and
the second interlocking component is at least one indentation projecting inwardly or one
15 post projecting outwardly from each of the sides, each post cooperating with each
indentation.
3. The tray of Claim 2 wherein there is more than one post projecting upwardly
from each of the sides of the tray and there is more than one indentation projecting
upwardly in each of the sides.
- 20 4. The tray of Claim 3 wherein the tray has an imaginary median disposed between
the ends forming two halves of the tray and the posts and indentations on one half of the
tray are spaced from the median differently than the posts and indentations on the other
half of the tray such that when the second tray is stacked upon the first tray, the posts of
the first tray align and cooperate with the indentations of the second tray only when the
25 first end of the second tray and the first end of the first tray are aligned one above the
other and coplanar.
5. A modular tray comprising:

a first end, an opposed second end, a first side, an opposed second side, a top surface, a bottom surface, and an imaginary median disposed between the ends forming two halves of the tray; and,

5 at least one post projecting outwardly or one indentation projecting inwardly from each of the sides and at least one indentation projecting inwardly or one post projecting outwardly from each of the sides, each post cooperating with each indentation, the posts and indentations on one half of the tray being spaced from the median differently than the posts and indentations on the other half of the tray such that when a first tray is stacked upon a second tray, the posts of one tray align and cooperate with the
10 indentations of the other tray only when the first end of the second tray and the first end of the first tray are aligned one above the other and coplanar.

6. The tray of Claim 5 wherein there is more than one post projecting upwardly from each of the sides of the tray and there is more than one indentation projecting upwardly in each of the sides.

15 7. The tray of Claim 6 wherein each indentation is aligned vertically with a post.

8. The tray of Claim 7 wherein each post and each indentation is trapezoidal in shape.

9. The tray of Claim 5 wherein the tray has a plurality of parallel channels formed in the top surface thereof with each channel being separated by a longitudinal wall.

20 10. The tray of Claim 9 wherein at least one longitudinal wall is higher than other walls for abutting the bottom surface of another tray or a top piece stacked thereon.

11. The tray of Claim 9 wherein at least two longitudinal walls are higher than other walls for abutting the bottom surface of another tray or a top piece stacked thereon.

12. The tray of Claim 11 further including a stop formed at an end of a channel at an
25 end of the tray for preventing goods stored in the channel from being moved out of the tray at the end with the stop.

13. The tray of Claim 12 further including a first end and an opposed second end overhanging respectively upon the first end and an opposed second end of a tray placed

underneath to block the goods from sliding out of the channels in the tray placed underneath.

5 14. The tray of Claim 9 wherein the tray has a plurality of parallel transverse ribs formed in the bottom surface thereof, the bottom surfaces of the transverse ribs being in direct contact with top surfaces of longitudinal walls formed in a tray placed underneath the tray when the trays are mated.

15. The tray of Claim 5 wherein the tray has a plurality of parallel transverse ribs formed in the bottom surface thereof.

10 16. The tray of Claim 5 wherein the tray has at least one pocket on each side serving as the lifting points for stacking and de-stacking.